

**Air Force Prime Time**, a weekly news magazine for and about airmen stationed overseas, airs Thursday evenings at 8:25 p.m. Central European Time on AFN television. In this week's edition, airmen in Saudi Arabia work with the U2 spy plane; Incirlik Air Base troops ensure pilots carry real fire power; school yearbooks join the computer age and more.



## News briefs

### Memorial fund

A memorial scholarship fund for Janyce Rogers has been established for students interested in studying for an education degree. People can send donations to the Janyce C. Rogers Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 479, Bloomfield, CT, 06002.

Rogers, a third and fourth grade teacher at Bitburg Elementary School for 27 years before moving to Korea, passed away April 7 in Osan.

### Resurfacing project

Curbstone replacement, resurfacing and painting of Bitburg Annex military housing parking lots takes place Monday through June. Construction begins at buildings five and four/six. Building eight/nine follows. The project will be done in three phases. Parking will be limited according to phases as follows:

■Phase I – Residents should park vehicles at least six feet from the curb or on Barnwell street. Building six residents can use building four parking spaces throughout this phase.

■Phase II and III – Residents must park outside the cul-de-sac, along Barnwell street.

Residents planning to leave the area during this time should park their vehicles outside of the construction area before leaving.

Call Staff Sgt. Robert Lewis at 452-6747 for more information.

### OTS selectees

Senior Master Sgt. David Rohlinger, 52nd Transportation Squadron, and Tech. Sgt. David Grassie, 372nd Transportation Squadron, Detachment 17, were recently selected for Officer Training School. A complete list of selectees is available at [www.aetc.Randolph-\(no hyphen\).af.mil/pa/aetcs/stories/01-054.htm](http://www.aetc.Randolph-(no hyphen).af.mil/pa/aetcs/stories/01-054.htm).

### Custodian meeting

Equipment custodians meet 10 a.m. to noon Thursday in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center. All primary custodians must attend or send an alternate if unavailable. Call 452-6132 for details.

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# Eifel Times

Vol. 35, Issue 15

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

April 27, 2001



Airman 1st Class Michelle Roquid

### Return to nature

Airman 1st Class Marc Brooks, 52nd Transportation Squadron, picks up trash along Spangdahlem Old Mill Creek Saturday. Volunteers from Spangdahlem Air Base and the local German community helped with the stream cleanup as part Earth Week activities sponsored by the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight.

## Officials slate IEA money for Bitburg sports facility

By Capt. Lori Kabel  
52nd Civil Engineer Squadron

After a month of evaluating suggestions, base officials have decided the construction of a new, covered, multi-purpose outdoor recreation pavilion on the Bitburg Annex as the top choice on how to spend the \$500,000 the base earned for being one of three nominees for the Air Force Installation Excellence Award.

The project was selected because it benefits the most people in the local military community, according to officials.

Spangdahlem residents shouldn't feel left out, however. The Spangdahlem Air Base picnic pavilion area, which was constructed with IEA money from the wing's 1998 award, has already received funding for an upgrade as well. This upgrade is expected to start late this year, according to officials.

The new Bitburg Annex pavilion, to be located near the hospital, will have a cover on it, thus offering another place for military families to use during inclement weather. The fact it's also an open-air facility will allow it to accommodate a wide variety of sporting activities, including a combination regulation-size basketball, tennis, and volleyball court.

The perimeter of the court area will also feature "banger boards" for roller hockey, half-court soccer and other activities. An asphalt play area will be marked for various court layouts, similar to a standard gymnasium floor. Outside of the play area, the plan includes several bleacher-type seating rows, landscaping and paved walks.

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## Eligible Air Force members get choice of retirement plans

Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Gaydos, 606th Air Control Squadron, and other Air Force members who initially entered the service Aug. 1, 1986 or later, have a retirement choice to make this August. They can opt for a 20-year 50-percent retirement under High-3 or choose the Career Status Bonus of \$30,000 and stay with REDUX at 40 percent.

The opportunity to elect retirement plans is a result of the 2000 National Defense Authorization Act, said Maj. Jeff Keef, chief of military estate and special pay policy at the Pentagon.

"The legislation, designed to provide all service members

with the same retirement benefits, transferred all members from the REDUX retirement to the more generous High-3 system," Keef said. "However, at their 15th year of active duty, these members may instead elect to receive a \$30,000 CSB and retire under the REDUX retired pay system."

The basic eligibility requirements for electing and receiving the Career Status Bonus are:

■Have a Date Initially Entered Military Service of Aug. 1, 1986, or later;

■Be on active duty with 15 years of active uniformed service;

■Meet eligibility requirements to remain on active duty through 20 years of service to include:

- Not having an approved date of separation;
- No pending court-martial or administrative discharge;
- Not being subject to any quality force conditions that would prevent continued service to 20 years.

Preliminary notification has already been made to the first Air Force people eligible for the CSB, Keef said. Normally,

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Master Sgt. Bob Haskell

### Sniper first

Senior Airman Jennifer Donaldson from the Illinois Air National Guard is the first woman to be trained at the only U.S. military sniper school open to females. She graduated April 14 from the National Guard Sniper School's first countersniper course for Air Guard security forces members. Read more about Donaldson by visiting the Online News link [www.af.mil/news/Apr2001/n20010417\\_0519.shtml](http://www.af.mil/news/Apr2001/n20010417_0519.shtml).

## Accidents

**By Master Sergeant Carlito A. Catalasan**  
52nd Security Forces Squadron  
Reports and Analysis

Major accidents were down this week to only one. However, 17 minor accidents occurred compared to last week's eleven.

The major accident took place Tuesday on Autobahn A-1 between Frankfurt and Koblenz. The driver reported he lost control of his Oldsmobile when a BMW entering the autobahn cut him off the road. As the American driver attempted to avoid the BMW, he slid across the highway into a ditch and the car rolled over. The vehicle was a total loss. Fortunately, there were no injuries.

Of the seventeen minor accidents:

■ One was caused by "speeding too fast for conditions."

■ One was due to an animal in the road.

■ Three were vehicle-to-vehicle.

■ Three involved hitting objects on the road.

■ Two included trailer-related mishaps.

■ Four accidents occurred in parking lots.

■ Three were caused due to improper backing.

There were a total of 54 citations issued this week.

The two common factors in all these accidents was lack of attention to the road and drivers not using defensive driving skills.

Not paying attention coupled with high speeds often results in an accident. Defensive driving includes following posted speed limits and slowing down according to weather conditions.

Also, pay attention to stop and yield signs at intersections. Remember the right-of-way rule if there are no signs. And, before backing out of a parking space, ensure you're clear to continue.

Safe driving includes awareness of surroundings, the traffic rules and being ready for the unexpected. Make our community safer by driving defensively.

## Retire

Continued from Page 1

people will be notified on or before the date a person completes 14 years and six months of active duty.

Those eligible who want to elect the bonus must complete a written CSB agreement that states the person will remain on continuous active duty until the completion of 20 years total active federal military service.

"Under most circumstances CSB recipients who fail to serve on active duty to their 20th year must repay a prorated amount of the \$30,000," he said.

If a member isn't eligible for the bonus, the notification will explain why not and will inform the member whether there will be an opportunity to make a CSB/REDUX election in the future.

The CSB is taxable income as of the date on which the payment is made to the member, Keef said.

However, if a person is eligible for a combat zone tax exclusion or qualified hazardous duty area tax exclusion on the date the bonus election becomes effective, the bonus, within allowable limits, will not be considered taxable income, he said.

Additionally, people may avoid paying taxes on the entire \$30,000 if they are a Thrift Savings Plan participant and contribute a portion of their bonus to the TSP, Keef said.

The current annual elective deferral limit of all TSP participant contributions from taxable pay, including the CSB, is \$10,500.

Keef cautions people that electing the CSB with REDUX instead of remaining with the High-3 retirement is a complicated financial decision and shouldn't be made in haste.

"Responsible people will need to be well informed and be making reasonable assumptions about the future when making this choice," Keef said. "Either choice is not universally good or bad and will have to be analyzed in light of one's own personal circumstances. And, while comparing lifetime earnings of the two options may be one way to analyze this choice, one's own values, expectations and goals will probably have influence on how the decision will ultimately be viewed."

The 52nd Support Group Family Support Center offers REDUX briefings to help Spangdahlem Air Base members make an educated choice on which retirement benefit is best for them and individual future goals.

"At first, I seriously considered taking advantage of the REDUX benefit," Gaydos said. "But after attending the briefing, I changed my opinion and will go with the High-3 retirement option because it works better for me financially."

"I highly recommend people considering REDUX attend the family support center briefing because it's so informative

and helps in understanding details of the benefit."

One of the most common reasons qualifying wing members have considered the REDUX option is to pay off personal debt before retirement. However, Bill Triplett, family support center financial counselor, says there are other, better options for debt repayment or for investment money.

"I believe the main disadvantage to the CSB/REDUX is the less 1 percent (Cost of Living Allowance)," Triplett said. "Although there's a one-time catch up at age 62, after that, the less one percent is forever. If a person lives to the expected age of 85, they have lost 23 percent of their retirement. This loss of COLA substantially reduces the individual's retirement benefits."

Other tools and programs available to find out more about the REDUX option include:

■ A Web-based retirement calculator developed for financial comparisons and a "Career Status Bonus Decision Center" available on the Web at <http://pay2000.dtic.mil/>;

■ Information about the different retirement pay plans available on the Air Force Personnel Center Web site at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep).

Career Status Bonus, or REDUX retirement, briefings take place at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Wednesday, at 8 a.m. May 9, and at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. May 23 in the Bitburg Annex building 2001. For more information, call at 452-6422. (Localized article by Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker, Air Force Print News)

## Briefs

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### World Day of Prayer

An ecumenical worship service at the Trier cathedral takes place at 10 a.m. Thursday. American, German, French and Luxembourges military members are invited to attend the service especially for international military forces. Attire is service dress.

Transportation to the event leaves at 9 a.m. from the Spangdahlem Air Base chapel. A free lunch is provided after the service at about 2:30 p.m.

Registration deadline is today. Call 452-6711 or 452-6281 for more information to sign up.

### Safety classroom moves

The safety classroom has relocated to Spangdahlem Air Base building 316. Course-two local conditions driving safety, supervisor safety training and unit ground manager safety training will be conducted in a first floor classroom. Call 452-7233 for details.

### Instructors wanted

The 52nd Communications Squadron seeks people with knowledge in Microsoft office applications to instruct software training programs. Classes include software installation and configuration, beginner and intermediate Word, PowerPoint and Excel; beginner, intermediate and advanced Access,

Hyper Text Markup Language, WEB development and FrontPage. Classes take place during regular duty hours. For more information, call the 52nd Fighter Wing Software Training Office at 452-5384.

### Top Three

Spangdahlem Air Base Top Three meets at 3 p.m. May 9 in the Saber Club. Call Master Sgt. Jim Rosel at 452-6112.

### Estate claims

Tech. Sgt. Keith Slingluff, 23rd Fighter Squadron, died March 31. Any person owing or having claims against his estate should contact Capt. James Robinson, summary court officer, at 452-6023.

### Clinic closure

The immunization clinic closes Monday through Thursday because of the Local Salty Nation. Call the clinic at 452-8121 for details.

### Mail hold

According to postal regulations, parcels not claimed within fifteen days are returned to sender. To prevent this from happening while absent from the area, postal customers should complete a PS Form 2258, Temporary Mail Disposition Instruction, before departing. Using the form, customers can have their mail held or forwarded. Also, filling out a PS Form 3801, Standing Delivery Order, allows a friend temporary authorization to pick up the mail.





Senior Airman Jennifer Lindsey

### Go, go speed racer!

Alexander Fowl, dressed in his Cub Scout uniform, jumps up in excitement as his car beats Matthew Gallagher's in the Den Four race off during the Cub Scout Pack 161 Pinewood Derby Saturday in Bitburg Elementary School. J.T. Hawk, judges the race. The overall winner of the derby was David McMahan of the Weeblos, Den One. Cub scouts constructed their cars out of pine to race specifications with their parent's help and guidance.



■Olivia Chae Schuyler was born at 12:26 p.m. Jan 18 to Senior Airman Vincent and Stacey Schuyler. She weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19-1/2 inches long. Schuyler is assigned to the 52nd Civil Engineering Squadron.

■Emmanuel Jamal Harper was born at 9:17 a.m. March 16 to Senior Airman Marchio and Raquel Harper. He weighed 6 pounds, 13 ounces and was 19-inches long. Harper is assigned to the 52nd Equipment Maintenance Squadron.

■Skylar Alexis Harr was born at 1:28 p.m. March 26 to Senior Airman Joel and Cristina Harr. She weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 19-3/4 inches long. Harr is assigned to the 52nd CES.

■Sheindel Keilani Smith was born at 5:33 p.m. March 27 to Tech. Sgt. Daniel and Yaluisnett Smith. She weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19-3/4 inches long. Smith is assigned to the 52nd EMS.

■Kain Alexander Flores was born at 4:57 p.m. March 29 to Airmen 1st Class Armando and Courtney Flores. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20-3/4 inches long. They are assigned to the 606 Air Control Squadron and the 52nd Fighter Wing, respectively.

■Kalyn Desirae Chavers was born at 5:45 p.m. March 29 to Senior Airman Warren and Tiffany Chavers. She weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20-1/2 inches long. Chavers is assigned to the 52nd Medical Group.

■Todd Kristopher Bass was born at 9:25 a.m. March 29 to Staff Sgt. TeAnne Bass and Tech. Sgt. Karl Clark. He weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20-1/4-inches long. Bass is assigned to the 52nd FW and Clark is assigned to the 52nd Logistics Support Squadron.

■Cody Allan McNeil was born at 2:14 p.m. March 31 to Airman 1st Class Nathan and Karen McNeil. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 18-inches long. McNeil is assigned to the 52nd CES.

■Matthew Hudson Wahl was born at 4:40 a.m. March 31 to Capt. Charlie and Britta Wahl. He weighed 8 pounds, 15 ounces and was 22-inches long. Wahl is assigned to the 52nd Operations Support Squadron.

■Jeremy Robert Sylvester was born at 11:13 p.m. April 2 to Staff Sgt. Robert and Cheryl-Lee

Sylvester. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20-inches long. Sylvester is assigned to the 23rd Fighter Squadron.

■Gabriel Manuel Hernandez was born at 2:47 p.m. April 2 to Airman 1st Class John and Iliana Hernandez. He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20-1/2 inches long. Hernandez is assigned to the 52nd CES.

■Jessica Diane Lewis was born at 10:26 a.m. April 4 to Airman Matthew and Jamie Lewis. She weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19-1/4 inches long. Lewis is assigned to the 52nd LSS.

■Alina Yvette Hernandez was born at 3:34 p.m. April 6 to Master Sgt. Julio and Claudia Hernandez. She weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 21-inches long. Hernandez is assigned to the 52nd MDG.

■Adriana Marchie Oelberg was born at 3:43 a.m. April 7 to Capt. David and Cassandra Oelberg. She weighed 10 pounds, 9.6 ounces and was 21-3/4 inches long. Oelberg is assigned to the 52nd MDG.

■William Alexander Schick was born at 2:05 a.m. April 8 to Staff Sgt. William and Patricia Schick. He weighed 6 pounds, 13.4 ounces and was 20.5 inches long. Schick is assigned to the 52nd EMS.

■Emma Grace Denman was born at 3:31 p.m. April 10 to Staff Sgt. Charles and Nichole Denman. She weighed 8 pounds, 7.2 ounces and was 20-1/2 inches long. Denman is assigned to the 52nd Communications Squadron.

■Patrick Glenn Oakden was born at 10:07 a.m. April 10 to Capt. Neil and Glenda Oakden. He weighed 7 pounds, 5.4 ounces and was 20-inches long. Oakden is assigned to the 23rd FS.

■Elektra Morena Aguilar was born at 3:02 p.m. April 12 to Senior Airman Robert and Roxanne Aguilar. She weighed 8 pounds, 0.2 ounces and was 20-inches long. Aguilar is assigned to the 52nd Supply Squadron.

■Gabriel Alan Byers was born at 3:13 p.m. April 13 to Airman 1st Class Kevin and Stacy Byers. He weighed 7 pounds, 14.6 ounces and was 21-1/2 inches long. Byers is assigned to the 606 ACS.

■Robert Genola Jones was born at 2:16 p.m. April 13 to Senior Airman Micaela and Robert Jones. He weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20-inches long. Jones is assigned to the 52nd Component Repair Squadron.

■Cassidy Shyann Wiest was born at 10:43 a.m. April 16 to Staff Sgt. Brett and Candice Wiest. She weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19-1/2 inches long. Wiest is assigned to the 52nd EMS.

## IEA

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The overall aesthetic result is designed to enhance Bitburg Annex by using similar materials found at the gazebos.

The roof over the center will be tall for volleyball and basketball. A standing seam metal roof, combined with translucent panels, will provide natural daylight for the facility and reduce the amount of artificial lighting needed to light the interior.

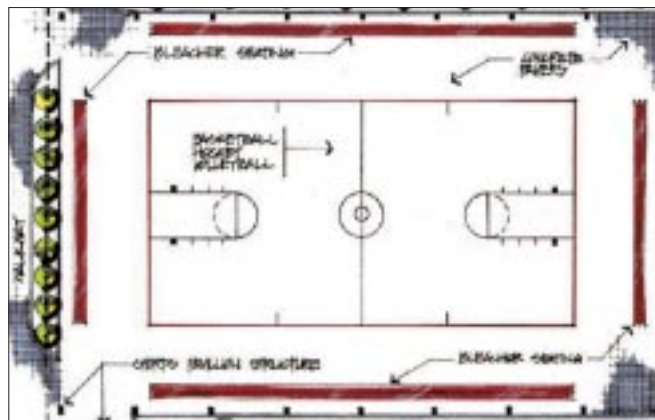
After completion, the project will provide an area for future development of additional recreational facilities.

The pavilion and future recreation areas are just one way the base is improving the quality of life for all wing members.

"The new structure will return the dollars

invested many times over in hours of enjoyment and healthy competition for all ages," said Brig. Gen. Don Hoffman, 52nd Fighter Wing commander. "It's a great way to reward the greatest number of people who work so hard to keep Spangdahlem as one of the Air Force's most excellent installations."

An artist's rendition of the new Bitburg Annex sports pavilion. The covered, open-air facility features a multi-purpose court, bleacher-style seating and natural lighting. Ground-breaking for construction is tentatively scheduled in October. The project will be funded using award money the base earned for being a finalist for the Air Force Installation Excellence Award.





## Community Mailbox

### Girl scouts

The Spangdahlem Air Base Girl Scouts seek a committee chairperson to fill a one-year appointment so scouting can continue after May 31. Call Lisa Denoncour at 06565-944587.

### Hummel signing

A Goebels master craftsman signs newly purchased "Hummel" figurines 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 4 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 5 in the Spangdahlem Air Base main exchange. Figurines must have been purchased at the main exchange the day of the signing to qualify for an autograph. Call the store at 452-6851 for details.

### Bitburg elementary

The Bitburg Elementary School Parent, Teacher Association seeks people to run for president and vice president for the 2001/2002 school year. Elections take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the school cafeteria. During the meeting, a fourth-grade advanced art class show also takes place. Call the school at 452-7215 for details.

### Family support center news

The following classes take place from 6-8 p.m. in building 2001 on the Bitburg Annex, unless otherwise specified. Call 452-9491 for details or to register.

- Basic investing, Tuesday.
- Mutual fund basics, Thursday.
- Resume I, 5-7 p.m. May 8.
- Home buying, May 8.
- IRA seminar, May 10.
- Choosing mutual funds, May 15.

### Pet fair

The Spangdahlem Air Base Veterinary Treatment Facility pet fair takes place 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 5 at the veterinary facility in Oberweis. Events include a vaccination clinic, animal trick contests, a photo and essay contests and more. Call the pet spa at 452-9362 for details.

### Spring carnival

The Bitburg Elementary School Parent, Teacher Association seeks volunteers to help with a spring carnival, taking place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 19. Call Pamela Troester at 06561-604759 or e-mail [pamela.troester-nohyphen@spangdahlem.af.mil](mailto:pamela.troester-nohyphen@spangdahlem.af.mil) before May 15 to register.



Airman 1st Class Kimberlie Drews

### She's got the look

Dezswana Bush models a light spring outfit at the Spangdahlem Air Base Army and Air Force Exchange fashion show April 7 at the Bitburg Middle School. The event was part of Month of the Military Child Activities.

### Learning new skills

The 52nd Services Squadron skills development center offers the following class in May in Bitburg Annex building 2002. Call 452-9316 for details or to register.

- Quilting, five-week class beginning at 6 p.m. May 21. Cost is \$30.
- The following classes take place in Spangdahlem Air Base building 189. Call 452-6841 for details or to register.
- Framing, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. May 12. Cost is \$25.
- Auto mechanics, 5-7 p.m. May 9 and 16. Cost is \$20.
- Tole painting, 6-8 p.m. May 21. Cost is \$12.

### New clubs

Chess players and stamp or coin collectors meet 7-9 p.m. each Wednesday in the Spangdahlem Air Base Library. Call 452-6203 for details.

### Remagen Bridge march

Registration for the World War II Society Europe Remagen Bridge Commemoration March is at 11 a.m. today in the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center Internet Café. The march takes place May 12 and commemorates the 27th Armored Division's capture of the last intact bridge crossing the Rhein River in Germany during World War II. Cost of \$29 includes round-trip transportation and a tour guide offering historical commentary. Call 06507-8292 or e-mail [ed.germany@t-online](mailto:ed.germany@t-online) for details.

### Education office news

■ Military members within one year of completing their bachelor's degree and under 35 years old may be eligible to apply for the Professional Officer Corp Early Release Program one-year ROTC commissioning. Application deadlines begin May 1.

■ Active-duty members under the Montgomery GI Bill can enhance their benefits up to \$5,400 by contributing an additional \$600 in their present MGIB. The offer isn't available to members who converted from VEAP.

■ An Embry-Riddle University course on aviation legislation begins Friday. Call 452-7553 for details.

Call the base education office at 452-6063 for more information.

### Summer day camp

The Cub Scouts local chapter seeks volunteers to help with summer day camp July 9-14. Specifically, the Scouts need nature, sports and outdoor directors and den leaders. The camp is designed to encourage and teach boys to use leadership skills. Call Gary Hackl at 06553-1745 or John Kennedy at 06561-948843 for details or to sign up.

### Fine-tuning fatherhood

A four-week class about children's physical, social and emotional development takes place 3-4:30 p.m. beginning Thursday in building 67. Call 452-3130 to register.

### Volksmarching

The Eifel Wanderers Volksmarching Club discusses upcoming trips to the Czech Republic and Austria during its 7 p.m. meeting Wednesday in the Metterich Zum Stein gasthaus. For more information, call Theresa Stevens at 452-6597.

### SMS carpet auction

The Spangdahlem Middle School holds a carpet auction 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 5 to raise money for the eighth-grade class trip. Handmade Turkish rugs are being auctioned. For more information, call the school at 452-7205.

## Movies

All movies play at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

**Bitburg Castle**

Tonight

**Exit Wounds (R)**

Orin is a tough cop in an inner-city precinct who discovers a web of dirty cops and corruption. Starring Steven Seagal and Isaiah Washington. (Violence and language.)

Saturday

**Exit Wounds**

Sunday

**Save the Last Dance (PG-13)**

Sara dreams of devoting her life to ballet. Derek comes from inner-city Chicago and dances to hip-hop. Together, they must overcome their differences and their family's opposition. Starring Julia Stiles and Sean Patrick Thomas. (Violence, sexual content, language and drug references.)

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Wednesday

**Save the Last Dance**

Thursday

**Snatch (R)**

A diamond thief arrives in London to deliver a huge diamond to his boss. In his mission to offload smaller stones, he's tempted into placing a bet on an illegal boxing bout, but he doesn't know it's a set up. Starring Benicio Del Toro and Dennis Farina. (Violence, language and nudity.)

**Spangdahlem Skyline**

Tonight

**Enemy at the Gates (R)**

Expert Nazi sniper Maj. Koenig was sent to Stalingrad to kill other snipers he finds. He soon finds himself locked in a duel for the love of a Russian-American sniper. Starring Jude Law and Ed Harris. (Strong graphic war violence and sexuality.)

Saturday

**Enemy at the Gates**

Sunday

**Finding Forrester (PG-13)**

Known as the neighborhood recluse, silver-haired Forrester is a man whose mystery and eccentricity bordering on the mythical. When Jamal leaves behind his backpack full of writings, together they learn families can include true friends. Starring Sean Connery and Rob Brown. (Language and sexual references.)

Monday

**The Wedding Planner (PG-13)**

A busy wedding planner realizes she spends so much time organizing other people's romances that she doesn't think about her own love life. And then she meets Mr. Right who's engaged to one of the brides she's helping. Starring Jennifer Lopez and Matthew McConaughey. (Language and some sexual humor.)

Tuesday

**The Wedding Planner**

Closed Wednesday and Thursday

Times and movies are subject to change.  
For the most current information,  
call 452-9441.

# German Labor Day celebrations begin with May pole decorations

By Iris Reiff  
52nd Public Affairs Office

"Tag der Arbeit," or Labor Day, is a German national holiday celebrated May 1.

The holiday dates back to 1889 when it was celebrated by International Workers Congress in Paris. Then, in 1919 it was declared a legal German holiday.

In the Eifel region, mainly young adults observe the German May Day traditions. Today's most common May Day tradition is decorating the village May pole.

The May pole has two functions — it symbolizes freedom and in some areas, it also symbolizes hope for a good harvest.

The custom of setting up a May pole dates back to the decorative craftsmen of the Baroque period. The dates the poles go up differ from region to region, from the night before May 1 until Pentecost, which takes place about two weeks after Easter. Young men, often bachelors or members of the volunteer fire departments, go into the woods and fell a tall tree. In most cases a fir tree is often chosen.

The lower branches and twigs are chopped off leaving only the treetop untouched. Then a tractor takes the tree to

the village and the strenuous task of placing the pole begins. After the pole is up, a wreath, with colored ribbons, garland and other decorations, is attached.

In Bavaria and other German regions, sausages, ham and whole eggs often decorate the May pole. After the pole is up, hungry, ambitious villagers are encouraged to climb to the top to claim the delicious decorations as a reward.

Because the May pole is regarded as a prestigious village tradition, it's guarded around-the-clock to protect it against theft or destruction by neighboring town bachelors.

Another May Day tradition is "witches night," April 30, where village "witches" sneak about to claim items left outside overnight.

Other May customs include the popular May Day dance. The dance is held in a public spot or at a local gasthaus. Fishing has also become a popular May Day event in Germany.

Whatever people choose to do May 1, it's considered a day of leisure and fun for everyone in Germany.



Iris Reiff

**Erdorf firefighters set up the village May Pole.**



## Out and about



■Saturday through Tuesday, for German Labor Day, local communities host a variety of May Day celebrations and events. In Niederkaill a spring festival kicks off Sunday with concerts beginning at 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Activities continue Monday with a May tree ceremony at 6:30 p.m. and witches night celebrations and music taking place throughout the night.

■"Pop Meets Classic," a concert, takes place at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Schweich Stefan-Andres hall. The ticket price ranges from 26 to 46 DM. Call 0651-61071 for reservations or details.

■Attend an exhibition featuring ceramic and textile art by four Hungarian artists. The show takes place now through May 13 in the "Old Mill" of the Himmerod Abbey. The display is open from 2 to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

■An exhibition with the title "Jehovah's Witnesses Stand Firm against Nazi Assault" takes place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. now through Sunday at the Bitburg Beda Haus cultural center.

■Make plans to attend the Rheinland-Pfalz Tag 2001, June 15-17 in Landau. It's one of the greatest folk festivals of the state, offering static displays by both German and American Forces; information booths presenting state history, art and culture; a children's festival; open air concerts and more. For more information about the festival, call 06341-13183 or go to www.Rlp-tag.de.

■Visit a flea market Sunday inside and outside the Bitburg Flugplatz hall; at the Uerzig festival grounds, located on the Mosel river; in front of the Trier-Zewen Extra Markt supermarket and at

the Hermeskeil Kirmesplatz amusement park grounds.

■Cochem castle just opened for the 2001 summer season. The castle, which is located within 15 minutes walking distance of the town of Cochem, is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Entry is 7 DM for adults and 6 DM for children. Groups of 12 or more people pay 6 DM each.

■Wittlich sponsors a May festival Saturday through Tuesday, which is Labor Day in Germany. The event features a Spanish night with Latin-American tunes and dances, Gypsy music and dances, a balloon competition, open air concerts, folk dances, sales booths, food and beverages. Many stores open at 1 p.m. Sunday for the event.

■Sign up now and explore Verdun, France, with members of the German-American Friendship Club May 19. Call Gisela Traut at 452-6172 or Marlies Wallen at 452-6063 for details and to register.

■The German-American club meets for its monthly social dinner at 7 p.m. May 10 in the Speicher "Unter den Kastanien" restaurant.

■The Gondorf Eifel Park recently re-opened for the 2001 season. Park information will be featured in an upcoming issue of the Eifel Times.

■Art enthusiasts can see paintings by numerous German artists in the Trier Simeonstift city museum, located near the Porta Nigra. The show is open daily 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Subjects relate to the 1930s. Visit the museum's Web site at www.museum-trier.de for details.

■Guns n' Roses, Limp Bizkit,

Radiohead, Tool, Papa Roach, A-Ha and other bands perform at the 2001 Rock at the Ring open air festival June 1-3. Tickets are available at the Spangdahlem ITT office at 452-6567 or 7770.

■A limited number of tickets are available for a concert by the Glenn Miller Orchestra, lead by Wil Salden, at 9 p.m. June 3 at the Luxembourg Wiltz Open-Air Theater. Call 0651-41253 or 0651-9941188 for tickets.

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Information, Tickets and Tours offers the following tours in May. Call the Spangdahlem Air Base Community Activities Center at 452-6567 or the Bitburg Annex community center at 452-9120 for details.

■Keukenhof and Madurodam, Holland, May 5. Cost is \$75 for adults, \$65 for children ages 4-12.

■Rhein in Flames in Bonn, Germany, May 5. Cost is \$80 per person.

■Castles of the Eifel, May 6. Cost is \$35 for adults, \$30 for children ages 4-12.

■Paris overnight May 12. Cost is \$185 for adults, \$130 for children 3-12.

■Mosel River dinner cruise and wine tasting, May 12. Cost is \$48 per person.

■Six Flags, Holland, May 12. Cost is \$59 for adults, \$49 for children 39-inches minimum height to 55-inches maximum.

■Rhein River cruise, May 13. Cost is \$39 for adults, \$29 for children ages 4-13.

■Cochem medieval dinner, May 19. Cost is \$65 per person.

■Paris express, May 19. Cost is \$89 for adults, \$75 for children ages 3-17.

■Belgian grottos and safari park, May 19. Cost is \$45 for adults, \$25 for children 4-17.

■Köln zoo and aquarium, May 20. Cost is \$30 for adults, \$25 for children 4-17.

■Spain for three nights, May 24-28. Early booking cost is \$198 for adults.

■Poland deluxe tour for two nights, May 25-28. Early booking cost is \$289 for adults.

■Disneyland Paris, May 26. Cost is \$85 for adults, \$75 for children ages 3-11.

■Oberhausen Mall, May 28. Cost is \$25 for adults, \$20 for children ages 3-12.

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The outdoor recreation program sponsors the following trips in May. Call 452-7176 for details.

■Luxembourg city bike tour, May 5. Cost is \$30 per person with bike rental.

■Kyll River kayak trip, May 6. Cost is \$30 per person.

■Beginning and intermediate rock climbing, May 12-13. Cost is \$80 per person with camping.

■Two-day horseback trail riding, May 19-20. Cost is \$170.

■Whitewater rafting and canyoning trip, May 25-28. Cost ranges from \$225-\$290, depending on accommodations.

■Bicycle maintenance clinic, May 30. Cost is \$10.



# We can't do it without you!

Volunteers provide backbone to base programs, improving quality of life for all

By Lt. Col. John Povelones  
52nd Services Squadron commander

The 52nd Services Squadron's focus for this year has been to continuously build and enhance programs for the entire community.

Our squadron touches just about every aspect of the 52nd Fighter Wing mission. In fact, you could say we take care of you from cradle to grave. With such a responsibility, it takes hundreds of dedicated professionals to make it happen. For the purpose of this article, I would like to focus on the many volunteers who supplement my staff and are indeed the touchstone of our wing. Many times, the services squadron gets the credit for successful programs, but it's the behind the scenes teamwork of our staff and the volunteers that get the job done.

To paint this picture, you only need to look at the size of the services staff assigned to organize and implement these programs. Our community activity center staff only has three members responsible for hosting big name entertainers like Tracy Lawrence, ethnic shows such as the Polynesian Dancers, local and command-level talent shows, Christmas parades, Easter egg hunts, Tops In Blue and dinner theater shows just to name a few. In each of these cases, it takes hundreds of volunteers and private organizations to supplement our staff. These dedicated people are off-duty military members, parents, teens and local nationals. Their tireless efforts stretch well into the weekend and late evening with such important tasks as stage set up, decorations and actually working the event.

In addition to man-hour support, private organizations such as the Officers and Civilians Spouses and Spangdahlem



Senior Airman Esperanza Berrios  
"Kids in Black," dance at the U.S. Air Forces in Europe youth talent show on Spangdahlem Air Base April 13.

Spouses and Enlisted Members clubs pitch in with funding support for all the additional touches necessary to make the event first class.

To further paint this picture, take a look at our youth sports program. The staff is comprised of three people to support more than 1,000 children annually in various sport programs. Once again, it's the off-duty military members' and parents' selfless efforts as volunteer coaches or assistant coaches to

make the season go. In the upcoming weeks, drive by our ball fields after work and on the weekends and you will see the season starting to take shape.

Finally, I would like to describe a few of our advisory councils and the important roles volunteers play in helping fine-tune our activities. The Eifel Parents Advisory Council is a team of parents, wing agencies and caregivers who meet frequently to shape our child development centers and youth programs. The Spang and Saber Club Advisory Council membership includes club members and staff who develop a road map of new programs and activities. The Dining Facility Advisory Council is just getting started and consists of single airmen and our staff who are building the menus for tomorrow. Our Fitness Center Advisory Council comprises members from each squadron and our staff who focus, not only on adult, intramural and variety sports, but improving the facility itself.

Our newest advisory group formed is the Youth Sports Advisory Council made up of parents, referees, wing agencies and our staff. Its goal is to create a positive sports experience for each and every child and help us develop and maintain a sports program that enhances the emotional, physical, social and educational well being of our children.

We have seen just about every type of inspection team during the last year. The concluding comments from the team chiefs have had the same theme, "The 52nd Fighter Wing takes great pride in its people and programs."

It's the dedicated team mentioned above who is truly deserving of this praise. To those of you who have volunteered this year, I would like to extend my heart felt thanks because we really couldn't do it without you.

## Spring into 101 'critical' Days of Summer

By Gen. Gregory Martin  
U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander

**RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany** — "Spring into 101 Critical Days of Summer" is not just another safety campaign, but rather a time for us to think about and prepare for the summer and schedule our activities accordingly.

By planning ahead of time, we can do a much better job of anticipating the many challenges we'll face as we try to balance personal, family and Air Force priorities. And, most importantly, we will be able to build in some flexibility, which will allow each of us to deal with the inevitable pop-up circumstances requiring changes to our original plan.

Although we face seasonal risks throughout the year, I have found the summer season to be the most dangerous.

With longer days and predominantly better weather, we have a tendency to overestimate the number of activities we can accomplish in any given day while underestimating the fatigue factor associated with those activities. Additionally, the summer months produce rapidly changing and often violent weather patterns that can catch even the most prepared at an awkward and dangerous point.

The first step in all mishap prevention plans is to be aware of and expect change. Next, match and assess the risks associated with a change. Finally, we must adjust our attitudes and behaviors based on change and its associated risks. I offer the following as a recipe for your personal mishap prevention plan:

- Expect change
- Assess the risk before you act

- Trust your intuition
- Take care of each other
- Your goal is to survive

USAFE commanders, supervisors and key personnel: I challenge you to create an environment which garners responsible behavior from your people at all times, especially now as we "Spring into 101 Critical Days of Summer."

While developing briefing topics, consider new themes each week and place emphasis on high-risk spring and summer activities such as white water rafting, rock climbing or motorcycle racing. Also, explain the benefits of mission readiness and family derived from using proper risk management techniques, DWI prevention programs and motor vehicle safety.

Historically, the dangers associated with congested European roadways and our

participation in high-risk activities haunt us during the spring and summer. When we venture out to enjoy Europe without adequate preparation, we all may underestimate the risk that could lead to a tragic mishap. We must talk about potential risks to avoid and how to handle the personal pressures that sometimes cause us to take unnecessary risk.

I can't stress enough how important our people are in making our USAFE mission a success. I don't subscribe to the view that mishaps are considered a normal part of our military business — they can be prevented and eliminated! We must all step out and demonstrate our sincere concern for everyone's safety and security to ensure a healthy environment during this time of year as we "Spring into 101 Critical Days of Summer." (USAFE News Service)

### Eifel Times

www.spangdahlem.af.mil

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

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Number of days since  
last DUI:

03

You have a choice. Call Airmen  
Against Drunk Driving at 452-2233.

As of Thursday



Courtesy photo

**Record breaker**

Tobias Adams, at 148 pounds, deadlifts 585 pounds April 14 and breaks the Spangdahlem Air Base powerlifting record at the Armed Forces Powerlifting Championships in Bamberg, Germany. With the lift, Adams also took first place for the combined total lift tournament record, which also includes the squat and bench press. Cody Hynes, Michele Ott and Paula Pierce of Spangdahlem AB also took first place in their weight classes. Lindsey Bullard, Robert Hart, Max Rippel and Gerald Salyers took third.

Buyers beware:

## Hemp-seed products off-limits in Air Force

By Capt. Sean McKenna  
Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — Exercising and following good eating habits can lead to a healthy life, but taking health products with hemp seeds or using steroids can lead to a short Air Force career.

There are some nutritional supplements on the commercial market made with hemp byproducts such as hemp seeds and hemp seed oil. Although the use, importation or manufacturing of marijuana is illegal in the United States, hemp byproducts are not themselves illegal.

To attract customers, manufacturers of hemp seed oil products market hemp byproducts as good sources of fatty acids and proteins, both important to good health. However, taking these products could spell the end of the line for airmen.

### Contamination factor

Even though hemp seeds don't contain tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, the seeds may become contaminated with THC through contact with the stems and leaves during processing.

In fact, studies have shown products made with hemp seed oil may contain varying levels of THC, and may therefore be detectable in the urinalysis samples provided as part of the Air Force Drug Testing Program.

Laboratory testing can't distinguish between hemp seed oil products and marijuana. Therefore, to ensure military readiness, the ingestion of hemp seed oil or products made with hemp seed oil is now prohibited by Air Force Instruction 44-121, "Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program." Failure to comply with this prohibition is a violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

### Ignorance is no excuse

While most airmen have no desire to jeopardize their careers by ingesting illegal

products, some may do so by ingesting products that contain hemp.

The bad news is that ignorance is no excuse. When a urinalysis test detects the presence of prohibited substances in an airman's system, in whatever form, UCMJ action is likely to follow.

There are also many synthetic agents currently available as dietary supplements and marketed for body builders. Currently, the Air Force hasn't issued a general ban on these dietary supplement substances. However, there's an aeromedical policy requiring "special duty" personnel such as those on the Personal Reliability Program or on flying status to report the use of dietary supplements. Any person considering using dietary supplements should consult the health and wellness center and their physician.

If an airman ingests hemp seed oil, it's possible his or her urine will test positive for THC or steroids, and he or she would become the subject of a criminal investigation and possible disciplinary action.

### Read the label

So, how can someone prevent this from happening? People should remember the consumer slogan "buyer beware," especially if they regularly use products from health food stores, because some contain hemp byproducts.

Read the label and look for the active ingredients of each product. If the product label lists any form of hemp seed oil or hemp byproducts, then don't buy it or use it.

The good news is that nutritional products at the fitness center and base exchange are safe because they don't stock products containing the prohibited substances.

The best course of action is to always consult a physician before beginning any diet or exercise program. These professionals can help design a healthy fitness regimen and advise on the safe use of dietary and nutritional supplements. So, be smart, be aware, read the label and get professional advice. (Courtesy of AFSPC News Service)

## European racquetball championships open to novices

By Michael Bowers  
415th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Racquetball players of all skill levels are eligible to compete in this year's U.S. Forces Europe Racquetball Championships scheduled May 4-6 at Sembach, Germany.

For the first time, a B and C skill-level division exists for men and a novice division for women. The new divisions are in addition to six other divisions for the hard hitters who will be vying for automatic berths in their respective service racquetball championships.

Other categories include men's and women's open, men's and women's seniors (age 35-39), men's masters (age 40-45) and open doubles.

"We want this to be the biggest USAFE tournament since the days of downsizing when our tournaments drew hundreds of players from throughout Europe," said Tom

Burkett, U.S. Air Forces in Europe sports director. "The new divisions will hopefully bring out the players who are not seasoned tournament players, but enjoy competing at their skill level.

"These players were traditionally tossed in and didn't fare too well in the pool with the top-notch players. It wasn't a lot of fun, and we have seen some drop in participation."

Racquetball players interested in competing should contact the Sembach fitness center to register. For those players needing lodging, it is very important to let the gym know right away.

"We blocked rooms for players, but need to know far in advance to make sure we don't forfeit our reservations," said Jim Caffery, Sembach fitness center and tournament director.

Participants need to give their social security number, dates lodging is required and whether a single or double room. The Sembach Sports Office will handle the rest. Payment is due at check-in.

Depending on the number of players, Caffery said it might be necessary to begin playing May 4. However, both Burkett and Caffery said that a Friday starting date should not be a problem as players can ask for permissive TDY.

It's possible to register on-line by going to [www.racquetball.de](http://www.racquetball.de), click on [turnierkalender](http://turnierkalender), click on 2000-2001 schedule and scroll down to the USAFE tournament.

Trophies will be awarded to first through third-place finishers in each division of the double-elimination format, plus each participant receives a T-shirt. The Sembach fitness center features four glass back-wall courts.



# Barons take fourth in nine-team meet

## Record performances win Lady Barons second place

By Ross Calvert  
Bitburg High School track coach

The Bitburg Barons hosted a large track and field competition Saturday.

Teams from the United Kingdom — Alconbury, London Central, Menwith Hill and Lakenheath made the cross-channel trek to join teams from Baumholder, Giessen, Hanau and Heidelberg, Germany, for the meet at the Bitburg High School's track complex.

Lakenheath dominated the male and female competitions. Heidelberg took second in the men's competition, where the Bitburg Barons team placed fourth.

The Lady Barons, however, beat seven other teams, taking second place with only four multi-talented high school competitors and several Bitburg Middle School members competing in exhibition status.

Catherine Butel improved her performance in the 3,000-meter run. She had already qualified to advance to the European Finals next month, but after shedding an additional 17 seconds off of her time, Butel claimed the 11th fastest time in the school's history at 12:29.73.

Similarly, Sarah Jenkins added nearly 2 feet to her triple jump performance, which had already qualified her for the finals. Her 32-foot, 3/4-inch jump is the seventh best in the



Jamie Romero

Deandre Townsel, Bitburg High School track team, runner second from left, finishes third in his heat during the 100-meter race Saturday at Bitburg High School.

school's history. Butel and Jenkins took first in each event and also placed in another event scoring 54 of the team's 70 point total.

In the boys meet, Quinton Shackelford scored 15 points for taking first in the 300-meter hurdle race and placing in the 100-meter, 200-meter and the high jump. His improved performance tied him for the tenth best time in the school's

history and improved his qualifying time for the European Finals. Eddie McCormick took first place in the high jump at 6-feet and tied for the eighth best jump for Bitburg.

Divisional Championships take place May 19 on the Bitburg track. Volunteers are needed to help keep time and judge the event. Call Pete Vadney, Bitburg High School athletic director, at 453-9202 to sign up or for details.

## Eifel Sports World

### Sports day cancelled

The Spangdahlem Air Base sports day and May Fitness Month closing ceremonies are cancelled. Call the base fitness center at 452-6496 for more information about rescheduling.

### HAWC news

■ Tobacco Cessation, a four session course designed to help people kick the smoking habit, takes place at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

■ Fitness 101, a strength-training course, takes place 2-4 p.m. Thursday.

■ A sports nutrition class takes place noon to 1 p.m. Thursday.

■ A week-long fitness boot camp takes place 6:30-7:30 a.m. May 7-11 and 14-18.

■ A two session stress management course takes place at 3 p.m. May 8 and 22.

■ Weight Training 101, a course teaching how to set up personal weightlifting routines, takes place 2-4 p.m. May 10.

■ A course on fitness at home takes place noon to 1 p.m. May 16.

■ Women of Iron, a class teaching weight training basics, takes place 2-4 p.m. May 17.

■ A class on shoe and foot fitness takes place noon to 1 p.m. May 23.

All classes meet in the Health and Wellness Center in Spangdahlem Air Base building 192. Call 452-9355 for details or to register.

### Golf news

■ The driving range has an automated ball dispenser, which takes change,



Senior Airman Jennifer Lindsey

Susan Valencia, Colorado Rockies softball team coach, gives Kayla Glode pointers on pitching during Friday practice. The youth sports softball season takes place May through June. Call the base youth sports office at 452-6729 for more information about youth sports programs.

allowing the range to remain open 24-hours daily. Bring a club to practice day or night.

■ The May Fitness Month golf tournament takes place at 1 p.m. May 11.

■ A four-person scramble golf tournament takes place at 8 a.m. May 12. Cost is \$10 for an 18-hole select shot game.

The Eifel Mountain golf course opens 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. It's located in building 58. Call 452-6821 for details.

### Fitness center news

Participate in the following events

celebrating May Fitness Month.

■ A kick-off health fair and fun run takes place at 9:30 a.m. May 7. Free blood pressure checks, micro-fit testing and healthy snacks will be provided.

■ A racquetball tournament takes place at 5 p.m. May 7-8.

■ A 20-kilometer bike race takes place at 10 a.m. May 10. Meet behind the Spangdahlem Air Base Post Office.

■ An aerobathon takes place at 5 p.m. May 10.

■ Three-on-three basketball takes place at 5 p.m. May 14.

Events take place at the Spangdahlem

Air Base fitness center, building 152, unless otherwise specified. Call 452-6496 for more information.

### Intramural tennis

The intramural tennis season runs from May 7 through July 2. All games take place on the Spangdahlem Air Base tennis courts. Contact a squadron sports representative for details or to register.

### Bowling news

■ Summer league registration continues through May 20.

■ League bowlers can practice for \$1.50 per game 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. Bowlers must present a current ABC/WIBC card to qualify for the discount.

■ Families can enjoy discounted bowling noon to 4 p.m. each Sunday.

■ Colorama and glo-bowling specials take place throughout May. Call for times and dates.

The Eifel Lanes bowling center opens 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and noon to 9 p.m. Sunday. It's located in Spangdahlem Air Base building 300. Call 452-6217 for more information.

### Aerobics classes

Kick-boxing aerobics classes take place at 5:30 p.m. each Monday and Wednesday, and at 11 a.m. Friday. Step aerobics classes take place at 11 a.m. each Tuesday. Both classes are held in the Spangdahlem Air Base fitness center. Cost is \$3 per class or \$25 monthly. Call 452-6496 for more information.